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RE: Chair's Report- Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee: June 12, 2023

• Update on Changes to Wheel-Trans Service

There is growing concern surrounding the changes that are being made to the TTC's Wheel-Trans Service. Under the new changes, thousands of users will be required to re-register to continue their access to Wheel-Trans. In many instances for those re-registering, the door-to-door service they are currently provided replaced with conventional public transit for part or all of their trips.

Under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA 2005) there has been an increase in access to Wheel-Trans for the 1 in 5 Torontonians who identify as a person with a disability. However, there is a concern that the funding to support the increase and provide equitable and accessible transit to those who rely on it does not correlate with the expanded access to Wheel-Trans.

• Update on motor-assisted micro-mobility vehicles ("e-scooters") motion before Infrastructure and Environment Committee

On June 28, 2023 a motion (<u>2023.DM6.3</u>) regarding "e-scooters" will return to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee where they will hear from City Staff on options to license users and how to deter dangerous illegal behaviour on sidewalks where pedestrians are present.

In February 2020, the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee unanimously adopted a motion (2020.DI7.3) that recommended the Infrastructure and Environment Committee request City Council "to prohibit e-scooters for use in public spaces including sidewalks and road, and direct that any city permission granted to e-scooter companies be guided by public safety, in robust consultation with people living with disabilities, and related organizations serving this population.

• National Accessibility Week (May 28-June 3, 2023)

National Accessibility Week is observed annually across Canada to recognize the contributions, leadership, and allies of persons with disabilities. It also celebrates the diversity of the community and provides an opportunity to bring awareness to the creation of a more inclusive and accessible Canada.